

'GABRIEL, BLOW YOUR TRUMPET.'

An Old but Good Story of Lorenzo Dow.

Lorenzo Dow, the noted eccentric traveling preacher of days long gone by, was very exact in the appointments he made to appear and preach, and sometimes had them arranged a long way ahead. He once approached near one of the small towns in the vicinity of Atlanta, Ga., and told his congregation that on that day, one year, he would preach to them again.

The next season, on the Saturday afternoon preceding the Sunday of the appointed time, the old man was jogging along the main road in the direction of the congregation. He noticed before him a stout little negro boy, of peculiarly active and manner, who carried in his hand a small tin horn, such as is used to call the people to their meals.

The custom among many in the South (previous to the war) was to allow married men to go to their wives' houses, and children to visit their parents, on Saturday evening, to stay with them on Sunday; and as the negroes are musically inclined, they carry a fife, a horn or a banjo, to give notice of their approach and to beguile the way; while in other cases they whistle, sing or shout. Dow, according to his usual manner, entered into conversation with the boy, and found he was about to visit the congregation he was about to meet. If the truth must be told, Lorenzo had an idea that the character of his flock was that of a reckless, frolicsome, kind, careless people upon whom it was necessary to make a very decided impression, or his time would be wasted away among them.

"What is your name, my lad?" asked Dow.

"Gabriel, sir," replied the boy, lifting a new straw hat, and showing his ivory, while he actually stepped along to keep pace with the preacher's horse.

"Can you blow upon that horn?"

"Oh, yes, master, I can toot a little."

"Well, let me hear you."

So the negro inflated his cheeks and made the pine woods resound.

"Do you know a tall pine tree near the stand at Sharon?" said Dow.

"Yes, that I do, very well, master."

Lorenzo then put his hand into his pocket, and pulling out a silver dollar showed it to the negro, and told him that if he would climb into the pine tree before the people met at the meeting, and keep there quiet until he called out his name, and then blow on his horn as he had just done, he would give him the silver dollar if he did not tell anybody about it.

The negro expressed himself highly delighted at such an offer, and promised punctuality and secrecy.

On Sunday a large meeting assembled at Sharon to hear the famous Lorenzo Dow. Serious old men and their wives, wild boys and their sweethearts, almost all on horseback, sometimes by twos and threes, beside negroes from a great distance on foot, being readily captivated by the natural eccentricity, for they love anything that has a laugh attached to it, and they knew that Lorenzo was good for a joke, even if it did hit hard.

Dow selected rather of a brimstone text, and made the application as strong as possible, but he forced his way slowly among the mercenary, healthy, honest-hearted people, who were hard to frighten. He enumerated the enormity of the vices he thought to prevail, but they were so used to them that the words slid like water over a duck's back.

At length he boldly described, in the plainest language, the appearance and character of the "last great day" and what would be their condition when that day came.

"Suppose," exclaimed the preacher suddenly, and then he paused, "that this were the day?"

He saw that some of the women became a little digitated, and that they nudged the fellows into silence and attention.

"Suppose," repeated he, elevating his voice, "that Gabriel should sound his trumpet?"

At this moment the little negro showed he was a "trump," and from the top of the lofty pine and clamorous blast overwhelmed the audience. The women shrieked, the men rose in the greatest surprise, the horses tied around the camp neighed, reared and kicked, while the terrified negroes changed their complexion to a dull purple color. Never was alarm, surprise and astonishment more promptly exhibited.

Lorenzo Dow looked with grave, but pleased attention upon the successful result of his experiment, until the first clamor had subsided, and some began to estimate the character of the artificial angel, and were about to apply a little hickory after the pine.

But this suggestion was arrested by the loud and solemn tones of the preacher, who, looking very firmly into the faces of his disturbed audience, leaned gradually over them to finish his discourse, and impressively remarked:

"And now a little negro boy, with a tin horn, on the top of a pine bush, can make you feel as how will you feel when that day does come?"

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Eastern and Middle States.

A REVENUE has been caused in Philadelphia by the arrest of an organized gang of grave robbers that has for nearly twenty years been despoiling Lebanon cemetery. Three men—two white and one colored—were arrested while driving a wagon containing five bodies to a medical college. It is asserted so many bodies have been taken from the cemetery for dissection that it is almost empty.

The next Pennsylvania house of representatives will consist of 113 Democrats and eighty-eight Republicans, a Democratic majority of twenty-five.

John Bassett T. Workman, brother of the late Congressman Joseph E. Workman, ex-member of Congress from Ohio, and member of the judiciary of that State, died at his residence in Madison, N. H., a few days ago, aged seventy-eight years.

Governor Loom has appointed Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr., to be justice of the supreme court of Massachusetts in place of Judge Loring, resigned.

A New York judge has granted injunctions in thirteen suits, twelve of which were brought by Hebrews, to restrain the police from interfering with the plaintiffs in their business on Sunday.

The official canvass of the vote in Massachusetts gives Butler 153,948; Bishop, 119,997; all others, 2,338. Butler's plurality is 13,951. Ames (Republican), for lieutenant-governor, has a plurality of 11,675.

Official returns of the election in New Hampshire show the following as the vote for governor: Hale (Republican), 38,417; Edgerly (Democrat), 36,919; scattering, 934. Hale's majority over all, 52.

A fire at Lyndonville, N. Y., destroyed F. C. Peto's vegetable soup works, entailing a loss of \$45,000. Adjoining buildings were saved by the free use of cider, taken from tanks nearby, 1,000 gallons being used by the firemen.

On the second Sunday that the laws against Sabbath-breaking were enforced in New York the measures taken for the suppression of traffic and trade were less vigorous and far less arrests were made.

Mrs. Loxbury and the lady who accompanied her to this country as her friend and adviser (Mrs. Loxbury, wife of the well-known London journalist), have had a disagreement which resulted in a separation and the latter's return to England. Mrs. Loxbury gives as the reason for the disagreement that Mrs. Langtry had accepted the candidacy of a young man prominent in the New York society to such an extent as to write universal comment; that when Mrs. Langtry was about to start for Boston the young man had sent on his horses and carriage to the "Hub" for the purpose of being near the actress and renewing his attentions; that remonstrance with Mrs. Langtry had proved unavailing, and that she had separated from her and concluded to return to London.

South and West.

The steamer Enterprise was burned off Miami's Point, N. C., and Captain W. A. Thompson, W. H. Hancock and a colored man were drowned.

The National Dairy fair was opened at Milwaukee, Wis., with a large display of exhibits from twenty-two States, representing all parts of the United States and Canada, as well as Great Britain, attended the tenth annual convention of the Dairymen, Eggs and Cheese association, held after the opening of the fair.

At Louisville, Ky., John Trinker, of Chicago, killed his wife by cutting her throat with a razor, and then put an end to his own existence.

The boiler of the propeller Morning Star, which plies between New Orleans and Magnolia Point, N. J., exploded with terrible effect. Of the twenty-two persons on board, three were killed outright, eight drowned and six badly injured.

In the course of a dramatic performance given by the young men of Melkand, Ill., in the village school house, James Peil had to fire a revolver at his brother John. He had neglected to withdraw the ball cartridge with which the weapon was loaded, and when he fired his brother fell to the floor of the stage, shot in the head, and expired.

SERARIE TISON, of Mississippi, was shot and instantly killed at Baldwin, N. Y., by a bullet from the hand of a man named Jackson, Miss., gives this account of the affair: "A domestic trouble in the family of Colonel Tison's brother culminated in an attack on Edward Saunders, a member of Baldwin, by the two Tisons and a son of each, which resulted in Saunders being badly beaten and injured. While confined to the house he was reportedly informed that Colonel Tison had threatened to kill him. Going out for the first time on Monday he carried his shotgun and shot Tison on sight, killing him instantly."

A COLLISION between a passenger and a freight train near Hinton, W. Va., resulted in the death of one engineer and two firemen and serious injuries to five other men.

At a Mexican wedding feast in Saltillo, a small Mexican town near Las Vegas, N. M., Francisco Noto, a drunken guest, shot and killed two brothers named Rovall. Noto then proceeded to his home and cut off his wife's ears. He was arrested.

An explosion of grain powder in a railroad tunnel in Oregon killed four Chinamen and dangerously injured four more.

The Philadelphia tug George W. Childs and the steam yacht Idle Hour, which left Norfolk, Va., some weeks ago for Florida, have foundered at sea, with all on board.

The intensely cold weather which prevailed in various portions of the United States was particularly severe in Dakota, where the thermometer registered thirty-seven degrees below zero. Near Grand Forks, Dakota, a woman and her child were frozen to death.

FIVE men were hanged the other day in different localities, as follows: Hong A. Dicks, a Chinaman, at San Rafael, Cal., for the murder of a fellow Chinaman and fellow convict in the State prison; Charles Gustave, at Donaldsonville, La., for murdering Eve Thompson; Albert Sanders, at Charleston, Mo., for killing Moses Wing; William Boyer, at Perry, Ga., for the murder of a boy named Smith; and Edward Conyers, at Swainsboro, Ga., for the murder of another negro—four last named murderers and their victims being colored.

From Washington.

The transit of the planet Venus across the face of the sun was an event for which the astronomers of the world had long been preparing. The phenomenon occurred within a minute or two of the calculated time, and although all over the United States the atmospheric conditions were far from generally favorable, interfering in many cases with an observation of one or more of the contacts, the results, on the whole, were highly valuable. They were such at any rate as to leave accurate data on almost every point that can be of interest to the astronomer of the twenty-first century—in 2004—when Venus again will cross the sun.

Hundreds of thousands of dollars were spent in preparing instruments and in sending expeditions to different parts of the world to observe the transit, and the finest skill and best learning the world affords were enlisted in the effort to make the observations successful.

On the whole, good results were obtained throughout the country, particularly at Washington, Princeton, New Haven, Cambridge, Amherst and Philadelphia. At Princeton, N. J., 183 and at New Haven more than 120 photographs were taken, the four contacts being observed at both places. Professor Haynes is well satisfied with the observations taken at Washington, Princeton at 9:55:50 A. M. (Princeton time) the small black spot representing Venus in the telescope appeared on the large white disk representing the sun, and the first contact of Venus with the sun in the transit of 1882 was duly observed and recorded by the astronomer. The approximate distance of the sun from the earth is 92,400,000 miles, while the approximate distance of the planet Venus is 21,000,000 miles. Venus is probably a trifle smaller than the earth. Notwithstanding the vast distance between Venus and the sun at the first contact—as the first intervention of Venus between the sun and the earth is called—by the aid of Professor Young's telescope and the spectrum it appeared as if the black spot touched the white disk in its passage across it. The fourth and last contact took place at 3:39:47 P. M.

CLARK McPHERSON has made up the list of the next House. One or two names are yet in doubt, but Mr. McPHERSON says he makes out a Democratic majority of fifty-nine.

NOBILITATIONS by the President. Brigadier-General John Pope to be major-general; Commodore Earl English to be chief of the bureau of equipment and recruiting in the navy department; Wm. H. Smyth, of Albany, to be major and paymaster in the army; Colonel Geo. E. Waring, to be a member of the national board of health.

COMMISSIONER OF PENSIONS DUDLEY says in his annual report that there is a surviving soldier population of over 1,000,000, out of which claims for pension in the future may be made by those who incurred pensionable disabilities. The commissioner says the bounty laws should be generally re-enacted and simplified, and make a number of other recommendations concerning the pension laws. Of the 2,083,241 soldiers who are entitled for the war pensions have been applied for by or on account of only twenty-six per cent.

The commissioner of railroads in his annual report strongly supports the suggestion made in the President's message that legislation is needed to remedy those mischiefs affecting the commerce between the States which are due to harmful discriminations in the adjustment of freight rates. He recommends that a commission be appointed to take into consideration the whole question, and report to Congress the facts necessary for intelligent and efficient action.

Foreign News.

REVOLUTIONISTS have been attacking various towns in Ecuador, and considerable fighting has been done.

A ST. PETERSBURG dispatch says that the Danish Arctic exploring vessel Djurand appears to have drifted into the Kara Sea, to the north of the Nova Zembla. It is proposed to organize an expedition with from ten to fifteen steamers and 150 reindeer to search for the vessel.

Spain has destroyed the Royal Alhambra theatre.

The British ship Fiona has been lost at sea with all on board.

A COLLIER foundered off Berwick, England, and ten persons were drowned.

Ten floods along the Rhine have resulted in a loss of millions of marks. Near Mayence sixty houses were swept away.

LOUIS BLAISE, the noted French historian and journalist, born in 1813, and Anthony Trollope, the well-known English novelist, born in 1815, are dead.

The Calves, who have been at war with the Boers, are being driven into caves, where they are blown up with dynamite. In one cave fifty natives were killed.

In Chihuahua, Mexico, the Indian chief Juh and his band stole a large number of sheep and cattle from several ranches, and a party of about thirty Mexicans followed them, but were fired into an ambush and surrounded by the Indians. One Mexican, badly wounded and unable to help. A party of about seventy men went to the assistance of the rest, but were headed off by the Indians and compelled to witness the slaughter of every man of the thirty Mexicans without being able to help them. When the friends of the victims went to bury them they found, not far from where the massacre occurred, the bodies of the Americans, who had also been slaughtered by the Indians.

FOUR more Egyptians prominent in the late revolt pleaded guilty to the charge of rebellion and were sentenced to death, but their sentence was commuted to exile for life by the khedive.

A FIRE which proved the most destructive one in years burned down a number of business houses and other property in the heart of London.

PROCEEDINGS IN CONGRESS.

Senate.

Mr. Brown presented the credentials of W. Barrow, chosen to fill the unexpired term of the late Senator Hill, of Georgia. On motion of Mr. Anthony the standing and select committees were extended at the close of last session were continued. Petitions were introduced by Mr. Daves, Mr. Ingalls and Mr. McKim in relation to the passage of the pending bill for the increase of pensions to soldiers who have lost limbs or are laboring under equivalent disabilities. Resolutions were offered by Mr. Daves, Mr. McKim and Mr. Ingalls for an investigation into the political assessments of government employees; also calling for a statement of the number of pensions granted and applications pending, and a joint resolution for an amendment to the Constitution empowering the President to veto a part of the appropriation bill.

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